

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments herein.

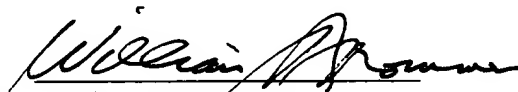
Claims 1-15 were pending in this application. By the present Amendment, Claims 1, 6, 7, 8, 9 11 and 14 are amended and Claims 4, 5 and 10 are canceled.

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that Claims 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11-15 would be allowable if rewritten to stand in independent form. Accordingly, for the purpose of expediting the allowance of this application, these claims have been amended to stand independently (note that Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of Claim 5). All claims in this application are now believed to stand in a condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, and the allowance of this application with Claims 1-3, 6-9 and 11-15 are respectfully solicited.

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number written below.

Respectfully submitted,
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